

REMARKS

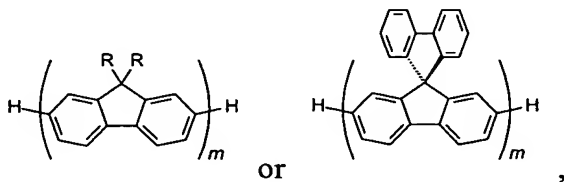
Claims 1 to 9, 11 to 18, 20, and 22 appear in this application for the Examiner's review and consideration. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claim 22, and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1 to 9, 11 to 18, and 20. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants submit that all of the present claims are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1 to 9, 11 to 18, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for the reasons set forth on 2 and 3 of the Office Action.

In response, Applicants submit that the Office Action dated April 21, 2005, stated:

Claims 8-10, 17-19, and 21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The closest prior art has been discussed herein. The prior art fails to teach a metal binding agent comprising a crown ether, cryptand or a compatibilizer (as defined by applicants) in combination with the other components of an organic light emitting device layer. The prior art further fails to teach the oligofluorene compounds set forth in claim 21 in an electron transporting material in combination with the other required components of a device.

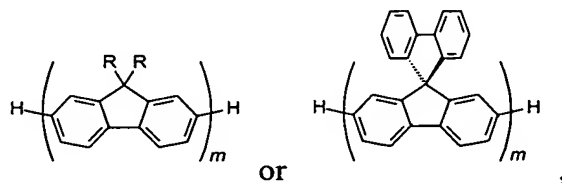
In response, in the Amendment filed June 8, 2005, Applicants Amended the independent claims to recite that the metal binding agent comprises a compatibilizer, the subject matter of original claims 10 and 19, and/or that the electron transporting host material is selected from a material having the formula



where m and R are defined in the claim, the subject matter of original claim 21, and/or that the metal binding agent is electrically neutral, subject matter that the present Office Action indicates is allowable for the reasons set forth on page 3 of the Office Action.

One of ordinary skill in the art will understand that, in the present claims, the term "and/or" means that an organic light emitting device in accordance with the presently claimed invention will comprise at least one of the limitations recited in claims 1 and 12, as amended

in the Amendment dated June 8, 2005, but may also comprise any of the other limitations added by that Amendment as well. That is, “and/or” indicates that, in the presently claimed organic light emitting device, the metal binding agent is electrically neutral, or the metal binding agent comprises a compatibilizer, or the host material is selected from a material having the formula



or any combination thereof.

When the metal binding agent is electrically neutral, it may be, but does not need to be, a compatibilizer, and the host material may be, but does not need to be, of the formula recited in the claim. Similarly, when the metal binding agent comprises a compatibilizer, it may be, but does not need to be, electrically neutral, and the host material may be, but does not need to be, of the formula recited in the claim. Finally, when the host material is of the formula recited in the claim, the metal binding agent may be, but does not need to be, electrically neutral, and it may be, but does not need to be a compatibilizer.

Accordingly, each of those limitations delineated by “and/or” may be present in the presently claimed invention alone or in combination with the other limitations so delineated.

The recitation of “and/or” in the present claims is effectively the equivalent of a Markush group, and such alternative claiming clearly meets the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. *See*, M.P.E.P. §2173.05(h). Moreover, a quick search of the PTO website for patents reciting “and/or” results in 117,424 patents, 192 of which issued on August 30, 2005, the date of this submission, and 29 of which issued on January 6, 1976, the earliest issue date available for text searching on the PTO website. Patents reciting “and/or” in the claims include U.S. Patents Nos. 3,930,292, directed to a device for threading filaments on rollers, 3,930,812, directed to methane synthesis, 3,930,872, directed to binder compositions, and 3,931,393, directed to a catalytic process for removing sulfur dioxide from gas streams, all of which issued January 6, 1976, as well as U.S. Patents Nos. 6,935,408, a method for producing steel slabs, 6,936,838, directed to a nitride-based semiconductor device, 6,936,682, directed to a polyamide, and 6,938,267, directed to an optical disc and a fabrication method thereof, all of which issued August 30, 2005. Clearly, the recitation of “and/or” in the claims meets the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Therefore, the claims particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter Applicants regard as the invention, and, thus, meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1 to 9, 11 to 18, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Applicants thus submit that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, an early notice of which would be appreciated. Should the Examiner not agree with Applicants' position, a personal or telephonic interview is respectfully requested to discuss any remaining issues prior to the issuance of a further Office Action, and to expedite the allowance of the application.

No fee is believed to be due for the filing of this Amendment. Should any fees be due, however, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 30, 2005

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